IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

COLLINS et al Atty. Ref.: 608-446; Confirmation No.

Appl. No. Unassigned TC/A.U. Unassigned

Filed: December 3, 2004 Examiner: Unassigned

For: METHOD OF PREPARING MICROPARTICLES

December 3, 2004

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

In order to place the above-identified application in better condition for examination, please amend the application as follows: